

Marple Urban District Council.

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Annual Reports

— OF —

HARRY BURTON,

M.D., Durham; M.R.C.S., Eng.;

— L.S.A., Lond.; L.R.C.P.; —

Medical Officer of Health,

— AND —

D. J. DIVER,

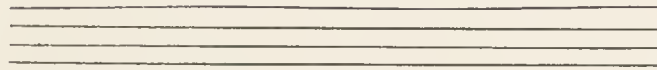
— Surveyor and Inspector, —

FOR THE YEAR 1914.



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Marple Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

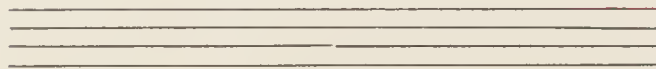
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M.D., Durham; M.R.C.S., England;
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MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Report.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Marple Urban
District Council.*

Sir and Gentlemen,

This is the Seventeenth year on which I have furnished you with an Annual Report.

The area of the District is 3,053 acres, urban and rural.

The village of Marple is built on the slope of a hill, with a west and north-west gradient.

The District is a hilly one, intersected by valleys, and with the river Goyt winding round the north and north-west borders. It is well wooded, and naturally drained.

The height above sea level varies from 450 to 633 feet. The lower parts of the district are humid and damp, owing to nearness of the river, and insufficient fall, and mists rising from the same make it unhealthy.

The sub-soil is chiefly clay, with faults of sand and marl.

The District is partly manufacturing, partly agricultural, and partly residential.

The residential portion consists of fairly large properly, tenanted and owned by people with businesses in the adjacent towns of Manchester, Stockport, Hyde, etc.

I estimate the population for 1914 at 6,600.

There are three large mills, and a few small works. The chief industry is Cotton Spinning and Manufacturing.

The cottages, as a rule, are healthy, roomy, and well ventilated. Several new cottages have been built in Hawk Green, but there is still a demand for good small houses, as in one or two places the property is very dilapidated.

There are very few poor in the district, and all cases that have to be removed go to Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport.

The water supply of Marple is obtained from the Stockport Corporation, and comes from their Kinder and Lyme Reservoirs.

The water is pure and good, and free from contamination.

The river Goyt receives the waste from two or three works higher up than Marple, and in a few instances is contaminated by overflow from some cesspools. We have this year applied for powers to join up with the Mellor and Ludworth Sewage scheme, which will greatly improve the River.

Our sewage and drainage are in a good state, and we have added a filter bed to the sewage works, but there is still a shortage of room. The flushing of the sewers is still not quite satisfactory.

The disposal of excrement in the district is by three methods, viz., water carriage, pails, and middens. We keep converting privy middens into water closets and ash bins as quickly as possible ; 96 have been converted this year. The number of middens have fallen from 696 to 600 ; much still requires to be done. There are now 710 water closets and 309 slop water closets, pail closets 100, dry ashpits 206, ashbins 877, and cesspools 20.

The scavenging is done by the Council's men, and has been much more satisfactory this year. The refuse is deposited on tips, away from habitation.

There are 877 ashbins in the district, an increase of 100 in the year.

The sanitary condition and water supply of the schools are satisfactory, and the schools have been fumigated and disinfected periodically, owing to a very mild epidemic of Scarlet Fever.

The Milk Supply is good, and greater care has been taken as to cleanliness (hands, udders, and utensils) since my last Report.

No action had to be taken under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops' Acts, only two owners having been warned.

No unsound food was exposed for sale during the year. The meat was good, and the slaughter-houses satisfactory.

There are ten bakehouses in the district. These have been frequently inspected, and five structural defects remedied.

HOUSE INSPECTION ACT, 1909.

There are no common Lodging-houses, and no underground sleeping rooms. The number of dwellings inspected during the year was 134. The number of defects remedied was 80 ; no closing orders were required. There is only one offensive trade in the district.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

This is under the control of the Sanitary Inspector, his men, and myself.

We have no hospital accommodation in the district. Infectious cases are sent to Hyde Hospital, in which we have the control of two beds.

The Adoptive Acts in force in the district are :—

- (1) Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, adopted 1895.
 - (2) Notification, adopted 1915.
 - (3) Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1890, Part III., adopted 1895.
 - (4) Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1907, Part III., adopted 1912.
- (State sections in force) 15 to 25, 27 to 38, 43 to 67, 69 to 77, 92 to 95, all inclusive.

Other Adopted Acts : Private Street Works Act, 1892.

The following cases have been bacteriologically examined during 1914 :—

Diphtheria : Three samples, all negative results.

Typhoid Fever : One sample, negative result.

Human (Tuberculosis Sputum) : Six samples, five negative, one positive.

The number of Infectious cases notified in 1914 were : Scarlet Fever 18, and Erysipelas three cases.

The Scarlet Fever cases were of an extremely mild type, and great difficulty was experienced in stamping it out, owing to the trouble of finding them out early, and not being able to isolate them. Some cases were imported. Three were sent to Hospital, and the others isolated at home. The schools were fumigated, and the houses thoroughly disinfected. Dr. Parks' treatment was used : Eucalyptus oil, and disinfectants, with a circular giving instructions, were given in each instance by the Inspector. No deaths occurred throughout the year. One return case was discovered.

There were five cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and six cases of other Tubercular Diseases notified in 1914.

Under the Tuberculosis Act all reported cases were isolated as far as possible, and instructions given as to disinfection, sputum, etc. One case was having domiciliary treatment, one case was in hospital, and one sent to a private sanatorium.

Of the other cases of Tubercular disease, four were notified from Hospitals, and two were Tubercular Meningitis.

There was a remarkable freedom from non-notifiable infectious diseases. The intimation from the different schools was very useful.

We are still badly off for Sanatorium treatment in the district, but that will be altered shortly.

The Midwives' Act is in force in the district. There are only two Midwives, and their work is satisfactory. I have examined their outfits, etc., and they are quite well informed as to Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

We are adopting the Notification of Births' Act in 1915.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous years.

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		
		Un-corrected No.	Nett.		No.	Rate	Of Non-residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 yr. of age		At all Ages.
			No.	Rate.					No.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	
1909	5800	125	21.05	78	14.4	...	4	9	72.8	82	14.0
1910	5800	124	21.3	66	11.3	...	6	5	40.3	72	21.4
1911	6100	115	19.1	86	14.2	...	6	20	162.3	92	15.08
1912	6300	104	16.6	73	11.58	...	6	5	48.8	79	12.53
1913	6500	90	14.0	63	9.06	...	4	12	133.3	67	10.3
1914	6600	114	17.4	82	12.4	...	10	9	78.9	82	12.4

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 3,053

Total population at all ages 6,500

Total families or separate occupiers

At Census of 1911.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1914.

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY. (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.	TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	AT AGES — YEARS.							
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45			45 to 65
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ... ..	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	3	...	...	...	1	...	2	...
Scarlet fever	18	...	3	10	4	1	...	...
Enteric fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.. ...	5	...	...	...	2	3	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	6	...	2	4	...	...	...	...
Totals... ..	32	...	5	14	7	4	2	...
								3

Isolation Hospital : Hyde Infectious Hospital, Cheshire, 2 Beds.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death, during the Year 1914.

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
		All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
All Causes—Certified		92	9	2	1	2	3	5	31	39
" Uncertified ... ..		...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	..
Enteric Fever ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)		4	...	..	..	1	..	3	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..		...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases		3	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...
Cancer, malignant disease		13	...	..	...	...	...	...	6	7
Rheumatic Fever ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease		16	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	7
Bronchitis		11	...	..	...	...	1	1	..	9
Pneumonia (all forms)... ..		5	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	2
Diarrhoea and Enteritis		5	4	...	...	...	..	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide		3	...	...	...	...	..	...	2	1
Suicide		3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other Defined Diseases		20	5	1	...	...	...	...	6	8
Diseases ill-defined or unknown		1	...	..	...	...	1	...	...	...
Apoplexy		8	...	..	...	...	...	...	4	4
Totals		92	9	2	1	2	3	5	31	39

TABLE IV. INFANT MORTALITY.

1914. Net Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.
MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
All causes—Certified Uncertified (Nil).	4	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	9
Tuberculous Meningitis.. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	4
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4
Totals	4	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2	9

Net Births in the year .	{	Legitimate	111	Net Deaths in the year	{	Legitimate infants..	9
		Illegitimate... ..	3			Illegitimate infants.	0

The health of the district has been remarkably good. No deaths from Infectious Disease, except Tubercle. No Fevers (Typhoid, Puerperal, etc.).

The Infantile Death Rate is much lower than last year, viz.: 78.9, against 133 in 1913.

The Death Rate for the district, 12.4, compares well with the Birth Rate, 17.2.

There were nine deaths under one year, of which four were due to congenital defects.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS' ACT.

There are eleven factories and thirty-five workshops in the district. These have been systematically inspected, and all defects rectified.

There were no structural defects, and no over-crowding. They were all in a healthy condition, limewashed, well ventilated, and clean.

There are ten bakehouses in the district. These have been inspected periodically. Five defects were discovered and rectified. There are no underground bakehouses.

There are five slaughter-houses, which are all well paved, drained, and whitewashed, and no defects were found.

There are no cases of overcrowding, and no illegal employment of girls. No legal proceedings were required.

The Canal boats, thirty-nine in number, were inspected. No defects were found.

No smoke nuisances were reported.

METEOROLOGICAL.

January...	1.97	inches rain fell on 14 days.
February ...	2.19	,, ,, ,, ,, 15 ,,
March... ..	3.73	,, ,, ,, ,, 23 ,,
April	2.02	,, ,, ,, ,, 10 ,,
May.	2.46	,, ,, ,, ,, 13 ,,
June	2.21	,, ,, ,, ,, 10 ,,
July... ..	3.49	,, ,, ,, ,, 17 ,,
August	2.77	,, ,, ,, ,, 15 ,,
September...	2.48	,, ,, ,, ,, 10 ,,
October.	1.50	,, ,, ,, ,, 9 ,,
November.. ...	4.74	,, ,, ,, ,, 18 ,,
December... ..	4.84	,, ,, ,, ,, 22 ,,
	34.40	176 days.

Total rainfall for year, 34.40 inches.

Average for the last 58 years—33.44 inches.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Veterinary Inspector for Cattle.
2. Improvement of Sewers (Flushing, etc.).
3. Better force of water from mains.
4. Improvement in condition of streets.
5. Notification of measles.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I think this report is, on the whole, very satisfactory. The low Death Rate and higher Birth Rate, the low Infantile Mortality, the absence of deaths from Infectious Diseases, Scarlet Fever, etc., are all favourable.

The only drawback has been the epidemic of Scarlet Fever, which, I think, is now practically at an end, and which, owing to its mildness, was very difficult to eradicate. There were, however, no deaths from this disease.

I am, gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

HARRY BURTON,

M.D. Durham, M.R.C.S. Eng.
L.S.A., Lond., L.R.C.P., etc.

*Appendix to Report.***CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.****Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work during 1914.**

Name of District, Marple Urban.

I. ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Which of the undermentioned Acts is now in force in your District ?

1. Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890 Adopted 1895.
2. Notification of Births Acts Adopted 1915.
3. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. Part III.
... .. Adopted 1912.
4. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907... Adopted 1912.
(State Sections in force) 15 to 25, 27 to 38, 43 to 67, 69 to 77,
92 to 95, all inclusive.
5. Other Adoptive Acts Private Street Works Act, 1892.

II. BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

State subject matter of any new Bye-laws or Regulations brought into force during 1914. A copy of any new Bye-laws or Regulations would be acceptable.

III. MILK SUPPLY.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of Registered Premises
at close of 1914 :—
(a) Dairies
(b) Cowsheds 46
(c) Milkshops 2. Number of Notices served for non-compliance with Regulations 2 3. Number of Legal Actions taken for non-compliance with Notices, etc. None. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Number inspected
during 1914
... .. 2
... .. 48
... .. |
|--|--|

IV. FOOD INSPECTION.

1. Is this systematically carried out in your District ? Yes.
2. Number of Slaughterhouses in your District (a) Public.
(b) Private 5.
3. Number of inspections made of Slaughterhouses during 1914:
(a) Public.
(b) Private 10.
4. Are systematic inspections made of premises other than Slaughterhouses where food is produced or sold ? If so, please state generally nature of premises so inspected
Bakehouses, Confectioners, Tripe Shops, Fried Fish Shops.

V. WATER SUPPLY.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1914 ? If so, please append brief note
Short lengths of water main on Hume-road and Arkwright-road.

2. Number of Samples analysed during 1914—chemically... 2.
bacteriologically... Nil.
3. **Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper supply of water ?** Dooley Lane.

VI. POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

In your opinion are any Rivers or Streams in your District polluted, or likely to be polluted at times, by any of the following :—

Source of Pollution.	River or Streams concerned.
(a) Public Sewage Disposal Works	(a)
(b) Private Sewage Disposal Works	(b)
(c) Solid matter (accumulations of cinders, refuse, sludge, etc.)	(c)
(d) House Drainage	(d)
(e) Manufacturing waste or effluents	(e)

VII. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1914 None.
2. **Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper system of sewers ?** Village of Strines.
3. By what system is sewage disposed of ?—Passed through cesspools into drains that discharge into river Goyt.
4. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1914 as to the disposal works ? No.
5. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1914 ? ... New Filter constructed.

VIII. SCAVENGING.

1. By whom is this carried out ? The Council.
2. Approximate number of the following in your district :—

	How frequently scavenged ?
(a) Midden-privies... .. 600	... .. From 14 days to 3 months
(b) Dry Ashpits 206 „ „ „ „
(c) Pail Closets... .. 100	... .. Weekly.
(d) Dustbins... .. 877 „
(e) Cesspools 20	... .. When necessary.

3. **Is the present system in your opinion inadequate in any respect ?**—Privies are being superseded by Water Closets and Ash Bins.

IX. HOUSING.

1. Number of new houses built during 1914 14.

2. Number of dwelling-houses inspected **under s.17 Act of 1909** 134.
3. Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation None.
4. Number of representations made to Local habitation... None.
5. Number of closing orders made by Local Authority... None.
6. Number of houses where defects remedied **without** closing orders being made 80.
7. Number of houses where defects remedied **after** closing orders made None.
8. Estimated or ascertained number of houses **within limits of rent in s. 14 of Act of 1909** 122
9. Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1914 80.
10. Number of such houses closed after notice None.
11. Number of such houses where Local Authority has executed necessary repairs, etc. None.
12. Approximate number of back-to-back houses in district 46.
13. Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district ... None.

X. TOWN PLANNING.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward for your District or any part thereof? If so please make brief note of (a) part of District covered by Scheme ... No scheme at present.

(b) Area

(c) Population

(d) How far has the Scheme progressed at date of making this Report?

XI. PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

Kindly state action taken during 1914 under following heads :

1. Sanitary Inspection of patients' houses Four.
2. Disinfection of ditto Four.
3. Distribution of circulars containing advice. None.
4. Action to prevent spitting Instructions (burning, etc.).
5. Supply of disinfectant Obtained by patients.
6. Supply of Sputum-flasks, paper handkerchiefs, etc.—None.
Instructions to obtain them.
7. Visitation by Nurses or Health Visitors

(Signed)

Hy. BURTON,

February 27th, 1915.

Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances for the Year ended December 31st, 1914.

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Number and Nature of Inspections Made.	No.	No. of Notices served.		Result of Service of Notices.			
		Statutory	Informal.	Notices complied with.	Remain- ing in hand.	Prosec- tions instituted	Prosec- tions pending
Dwelling Houses (General Inspections)	288	20	...	10	10	...	...
Cellar Dwellings ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Back-to-Back Houses ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Improper Ashpits	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets—Conversions	96	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cesspools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
House Drainage	97	...	...	...	...	...	...
Structural Defects	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Accumulations	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
The Keeping of Animals (P.H.A., 1875, S. 91 (3) ) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Defective Pavings	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Slaughterhouses (Private)	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Places where Food is Produced or Sold ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dairies	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cowsheds	48	...	...	...	...	...	...
Workshops ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bakehouses (Overground)	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smoke Observations	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
Canal Boats	39	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits	36	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	659	10	...	10	10	...	...

Signed, D. J. DIVER, Sanitary Inspector.

MARPLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Surveyor and Inspector's Report.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Marple Urban
District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to lay before you my report for the
year ending December, 1914. ⁵

SANITARY INSPECTION.

83
47 I have from time to time inspected various premises for
the purpose of ascertaining the existence of sanitary defects,
with the result that ~~288~~ premises have been inspected, ~~365~~ ⁴
defects discovered, ~~235~~ of which have been remedied, and ~~130~~ ¹⁷⁹
are still in hand. ²³⁸

In most cases the owners carry out the works without un-
reasonable delay, but in ~~20~~ cases it was found necessary to ¹⁸
serve statutory notices to secure the abatement of the nuisance.

Particular attention has been directed to the conversion of
privy-middens into water closets, with the result that ~~90~~ ¹²³ privy-
middens have been converted during the year.

and pail closets

The nuisances dealt with were as follows :—

Defective drains	97	49
Privies converted into water closets ...	96	128
Improper ashpits	12	
Structural defects	3	7
Defective pavings... ..	8	18
Defects in dairies and cowsheds	2	8
Improper water supply	8	
Accumulation of refuse	3	6
Defects in bakehouses	5	4
Offensive trades nuisances	1	3
<i>Insanitary Conditions</i> <i>Improper Windows to Cottages</i>	—	32
Nuisances abated... ..	235	238
Nuisances not abated	130	179
Total... ..	365	417

WATER CLOSETS, PRIVIES, ASHPITS, ETC.

The number of Water Closets and other Conveniences in the District are as follows :—

Water Closets... ..	710	843
Slop Water Closets	309	309
Privy Middens... ..	600	487
Pail Closets	100	90 81
Dry Ashpits	206	206
Ash Bins	877	1010
Cesspools	20	20

HOUSING INSPECTION, 1909, ACT.

The number of dwellings inspected under this Act during the year was	134	165
The number of dwellings considered unfit for human habitation was	0	
The number of representations made to the Council with a view to making closing orders was...	0	
The number of defects remedied without making closing orders was	80	142

COLLECTION OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This work is carried out by direct employment of labour.

The privies and ashpits are emptied at regular periods, varying from 2 weeks to 12 weeks, according to circumstances, the contents being deposited on convenient tips in various parts of the district. The ash-bins and privy-pails are cleared weekly.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Erysipelas
During the year ~~21~~ ³³ cases of Infectious Disease have been notified, consisting of ~~three~~ ¹ cases of Erysipelas, and ~~18~~ ³¹ cases of Scarlet Fever, of which ~~three~~ ¹⁰ cases were sent to the Isolation Hospital, the remaining cases being nursed at home.

The cases of Scarlet Fever occurred as follows :—

January	5 ⁰	July... ..	0 ⁰
February	3 ²	August... ..	2 ⁰
March	2 ⁰	September	4 ⁰
April	1 ⁰	October... ..	9 ⁴
May... ..	2 ²	November	2 ⁵
June... ..	1 ⁺	December	0 ⁴

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

three
The dairies and cowsheds have been inspected from time to time, and in ~~two~~ cases only it was necessary to write to the owners to secure the abatement of nuisances.

Tubercular Disease (Lungs) Five cases.
Other Tubercular Diseases Six cases.

BAKEHOUSES.

ix
There are ten bakehouses in the district. These have been frequently inspected, ~~five~~ defects being discovered.

CANAL BOATS.

The inspection of Canal Boats has been attended to. ³⁹ ²⁹ Boats have been inspected ; no infringements were discovered.

SEWERS.

The sewere have been periodically examined, and appear to be in good order. The Cross Lane Sewer was found to contain a considerable amount of silt, which has now been removed. A short length of new sewer has been laid, to drain the Klondyke Works connecting with the Buxton Lane sewer.

No new sewers have been laid during the year

WINDLEHURST ROAD SEWERING.

This matter has received the attention of your Committee, who have instructed your Surveyor to prepare plans and estimates for the work.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The works for the purification of the sewage (that is sewage up to three times dry weather flow), consist of a screening chamber of 6,000 gallons capacity, septic tanks of 95,000 gallons capacity, primary filters of 600 yards superficial area, secondary filters of 500 yards superficial area, and three acres of land.

The works for dealing with storm water above three times dry weather flow consist of two tanks having a total capacity of 80,000 gallons. The amount of sewage flowing to the works in dry weather is 130,000 gallons per day, which flow will increase correspondingly with the erection of new buildings, and the conversion of privies into water closets.

Your Committee are now constructing an additional filter of about 900 yards in area, which will be a very useful addition to the works.

LOW MARPLE SEWAGE.

are connected
This matter has received the serious consideration of your Committee, who have now arranged for the Low Marple Area to be included in the drainage area of the Ludworth and Mellor Joint Sewerage Board. This arrangement will enable the Council to construct sewers for the drainage of the above area, and to discharge the sewage into the Joint Board's sewers at Marple Bridge. Plans and Estimates for the construction of the necessary sewers have been prepared, application for the sanction of the Local Government Board has been made, and the Inquiry has been held.

RECREATION GROUND.

The above grounds have been maintained in good condition. No works of a special character have been carried out during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply is obtained from the Stockport Corporation. No serious difficulty has been experienced ; the

consumption has been normal. The underground waste has been carefully watched, for which purpose ~~eight~~ night inspections have been made, resulting in the location of ~~19~~ ⁹¹ underground leakages. In addition to the underground leakages ~~51~~ ³⁵ above-ground leakages, and ~~651~~ ⁷¹² defective taps, have been repaired.

Considerable attention has been directed to defective water meters. ~~20~~ ^{none} Suspected water meters have been tested, of which ~~eight~~ were found to be recording correctly.

WATER MAINS.

Some of the water mains, which have now been laid over 30 years, are badly incrustated, and need early attention. Your Committee have considered the matter, and, as a preliminary step, have instructed your Surveyor to report on the condition of Windlehurst Road water main.

MAIN ROADS.

The length of Main Roads in the district amount to 4 miles, 5 furlongs, 190 yards, the surfaces consisting of

~~12,129~~ ^{11,68} Yards Super of Water-bound Macadam.

~~21,181~~ ^{22,042} Yards Super of Tar Macadam.

34,199 Yards Super of Gritstone Paving.

The Main Roads have been maintained up to their usual standard, and are in good condition. During the year ~~2,200~~ ¹²⁴ yards super of Tar Macadam, and ~~1,000~~ ⁷⁰⁰ yards super of Sett Paving, has been laid. In addition to the above, ~~3,000~~ ²⁸⁸ yards super of tarred granite carpet has been laid. This last process is somewhat novel, and deserves attention. It consists of laying a coat of tarred granite chippings, varying in thickness from $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1" on partly worn tar macadam. This process costs about 9d. per yard super, and adds several years to the life of the tar macadam so treated.

In addition to the above ~~125~~ ¹²⁵ yards of flagstone footpaths. 678 yds super of concrete footpaths has been constructed.

STRINES ROAD WIDENING AT PRIESTFIELD.

The above widening is now occupying the attention of your Committee. It is suggested to increase the width of the road from 24 ft. to 39 ft., thereby taking out a dangerous bend, and to construct a footpath on the East side of the road.

BRABYNS BROW WIDENING.

This matter has again been considered by your Committee, but as the improvement involves the purchase of house property, in addition to the land, the matter has not been pursued.

DISTRICT ROADS.

The repairs to District Roads have been limited to the patching of Macadam and Sett Paving. No lengths have been renewed. ^{One} Two road improvements ^{have} have been carried out during the year, both consisting of rounding off ^{the} corners at junctions of roads, the corners in question being the junction of Arkwright Road with Brabyns Brow, and the junction of Hollins Lane with Stockport Road, both forming excellent improvements. The land required for the improvement was given in both cases.

A short length of footpath was reconstructed in Church Lane ROSE HILL DEPOT.

The Council purchased this property in 1913, and entered into full possession in August last.

Stabling for four horses has been constructed on the lower floor of the warehouse. The large one-storey shed is used for drying and storing macadam, and for making tar macadam, of which 480 tons have been made during the year. The remaining portions of the warehouse are used for store-rooms.

The buildings are in a bad state of repair, and will need a considerable expenditure to put them in a sound weather-proof condition.

PRIVATE STREETS.

No private street works have been completed during the year under review. The work of making up Derby Street is now in progress, and the plans for John Street and East Vale are in hand.

The following streets are in a bad condition, and should be taken in hand as soon as possible :—

Chadwick Street,
Chapel Fields,

Ley Hey Road,
Union Road.

